CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Graduate Studies News

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From the Dean's Desk
Siobhan Harty – Rhodes Scholar
Danielle Maisonneuve – Ph.D. Humanities

From the Dean's Desk

The Printed Word

January and February are hectic months for the Publications Office of the Division of Graduate Studies. The annual revision of the Graduate Calendar is in full swing and this year in particular, we are preoccupied with a total reorganization of this basic document. So much so that even the publication of the January issue of the Graduate Studies News had to be sacrificed in order to be able to meet our academic deadlines.

During the last twenty years, printing technology has changed dramatically and computer typesetting is now the order of the day. A comparison of the carefully handcrafted books of a previous era with many of the latest assembly line productions shows that this change is not always synonymous with progress. After all, the production of books is both an art and a science.

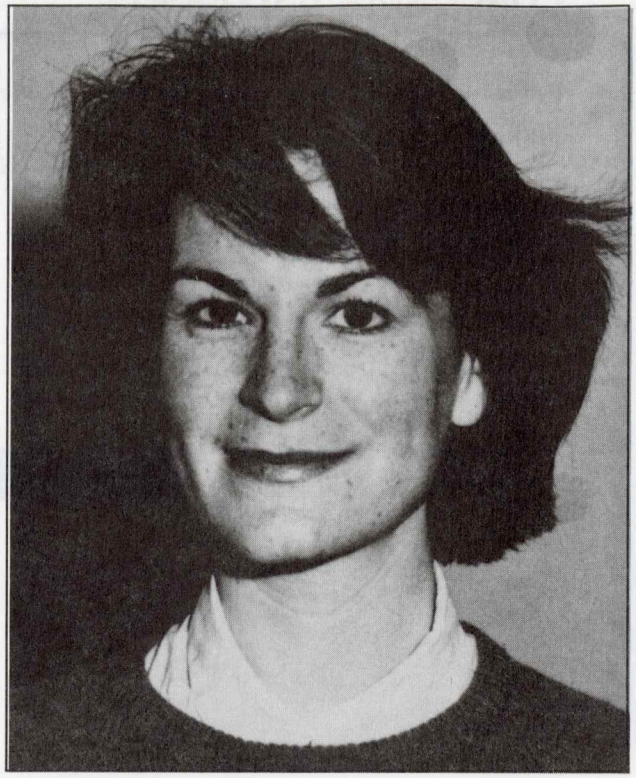
Donald E. Knuth, eminent computer scientist from Stanford University, has created for us a typesetting system whose main use is intended to be "the creation of beautiful books''. The system is used primarily to produce books that contain a lot of mathematics. The system is known as TEX and derives its name from the fact that the original Greek meaning of the prefix "tech" in words like "technology" means "arts" as well as technology. As Knuth writes in the introduction to his "TEXbook": "If you merely want to produce a passably good document—something acceptable and basically readable but not really beautiful—a simpler system will usually suffice. With TEX the goal is to produce the finest quality; this requires more attention to detail, but you will not find it much harder to go the extra distance, and you'll be able to take special pride in the finished product."

Convinced of its aesthetic virtues, we are using TEX to produce the 1989 Graduate Calendar. More precisely, we are using TEX to produce an electronic file that will be turned into camera-ready pages by a commercial division of the American Mathematical Society. The printing will continue to be done locally. We are hoping that the results of our efforts will impress Canadian printers to the point that they will acquire the necessary equipment to complete the TEXnological cycle.

Readers may be interested to know that there is a world-wide society dedicated to the improvement and refinement of TEX as an electronic typesetting tool. The Society has at least a thousand members, mostly affiliated with universities. It publishes a quarterly bulletin known as TUGBOAT and is the official publication of the international "TEX User Group". As "TEXnologists" or perhaps even as "TEXnicians", TEX addicts are not without a sense of humour since the number of puns based on this cleverly chosen name for the typesetting systems lends itself to a seemingly endless variety of adaptations.

We hope that the community will enjoy the results of our efforts to bring art back into the publication process with the 1989 Graduate Calendar.

M. E. Szabo
Dean



Siobhan Harty

Siobhan Harty

Siobhan Harty is one of 11 Canadians who was recently awarded the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship. The two-year scholarship, worth $20 000 to $25 000, was established by Cecil Rhodes at Oxford University. In his will, Rhodes specified that recipients should have strong scholastic abilities as well as athletic interests, but most importantly, they should display qualities of "manhood, truth, courage, devotion to duty, sympathy for and protection of the weak, kindliness, unselfishness, and fellowship."

Harty is currently completing the last semester of her B.A. Honours in Political Science. She came to Concordia University in 1987 following two years of study at Trinity College, Dublin where she read French and Classics. Her strong interest in Ancient Greek philosophy and political writing was the deciding factor in her decision to concentrate soley on Political Science. In her two years at Concordia, Harty has focused primarily on political theory and attributes this in part to her own interests but essentially to the excellence of the professors in this area. Harty's background in Classics has served her well; the links in political thought between the Ancient World and the Modern Age have been her personal area of interest. At Oxford she hopes to pursue a Master's of Philosophy degree in this area by concentrating on contemporary political theory. If possible, Harty hopes to continue this study at the doctoral level.

In accordance with the qualities Cecil Rhodes felt every Rhodes scholar should possess, Harty believes in the importance of making a positive and responsible contribution to society. This she does through her work with Amnesty International, the world-renowned human rights organization. Aside from her letter-writing activities, she co-ordinates one of her group's two prisoner dossiers, that of a Chinese dissident. In addition, she works as a volunteer tutor in a program run by Head and Hands, a community organization in Montreal. Time is the one thing missing in Harty's life and given a little more of it at her disposal, she would love to do more community work in Montreal.

A venerable Montrealer, there is no doubt in Harty's mind that she will return after she has completed her studies in England. Harty hopes to be able to lecture and research in Political Science.

Danielle Maisonneuve

At the corner of Dorchester and DeLorimier Streets lies an historical building called Au Pied du Courant. Built as a maximum security prison with a grisly past, it is today an architectural feat. This building now houses the Head Office of La Société des Alcools du Québec. The S.A.Q., a provincially-controlled establishment founded in 1921, deals internationally with 55 countries importing wines and spirits from all over the world. The magnitude of this 4,000 employee organization could be staggering if not properly handled. The Public Relations department plays a crucial role in such an establishment. As was seen in last December's strike, the importance of its functions are obvious. The necessity for coolness, diplomacy and grace as well as high organizational skills are all the qualities required, and they are embodied in Ms. Danielle Maisonneuve, the Communications Director for S.A.Q.

Ms. Maisonneuve has worked in Communications for the past 20 years. She deals with the socio-economic aspects of public relations and publication, promotional activities, customer service programs and sponsoring. Her 10-12 hour days are often hectic and yet she has found time between press conferences and junkets to Europe to continue her education at Concordia University. She is now completing her Ph.D. in Humanities, with her three concentrations in the fields of communications, political science and administration.

Why would a woman who is well-established and secure in her career choose to continue her education? "I would encourage all people to continue to study in their field," replies Danielle. "We think we know everything there is to know because we deal with the subject daily, but there's always more to learn. And if we have a chance to learn from academics of this calibre, we should do so ... we have the best at Concordia."

Danielle graduated from l'Univeristé de Montréal in 1980 with a Master of Arts in Art History, with a concentration in Communications. It was there that she learned of Concordia's excellent reputation in Communications. But her experience at Concordia surpassed her wildest expectations. The wide range of interdisciplinary studies offered in Concordia's Humanities program, plus the flexibility in which the curriculum was structured to meet her needs, were great attractions for Danielle.

Ms. Maisonneuve is a mother of two young children. Her husband works in nuclear medicine at a Montreal hospital. Danielle also leads a very active social life having served as a member of several organizations, including l'Association des communicateurs municipaux du Québec and l'Association des cadres, professionnels et gestionnaires de la C.T.C.U.M. As well, she is currently President of La Société de Conservation du Sault-au-Récollet, is on the committee of the Museum of Fine Arts, the Montreal Chamber of Commerce and le Centre des dirigent d'entreprises.

So, the classroom was restructured to meet her needs, molded around her requirements. "My thesis supervisor, Dennis Murphy, would come to my office to give me reading sessions because he knew I was too busy to go to the university. It's fantastic. I don't know where else I could get such personalized attention." She continues, "They are professionals who are continuing to publish and are invited as guest speakers. They are major contributors in their field," says Danielle, "and still they really care about their students."

Danielle Maisonneuve at press conference

Danielle was especially impressed with the professional competence displayed by all her professors: Dennis Murphy, Don Taddeo, Irene Devine, William Gilsdorf, and Harold Chorney.

"For example," she says, "Don Taddeo (also in Communications) was appointed by Premier Bourassa as Québec delegate to Italy."

Irene Devine, who is presently at University of Toronto, conducted a reading session called "Women in High Level Management."

Harold Chorney, whose reading sessions were based on the theoretical background for public policy, helped to direct Danielle as an essential asset to the Société des Alcools du Québec. The paper, entitled "Politisation des Communications Organisationnelles dans les entreprises publiques du Québec," was modified and presented to the Board of Directors and accepted as the official company policy. "It's the first time that an academic theory is used as a basis of business policy in my experience," states Danielle. "Five or six different programs have been implemented in everyday life at S.A.Q. as a result of this study." This is a very exciting subject to Danielle as she proudly displays this modified copy called "Politic de communications et programmes connexes" associated with S.A.Q. A spiral-bound copy of this program is available to the public. As well, there are pamphlets on various subjects, from employee behaviour to consumer prevention of alcoholism.

The modernization of the building reflects the thinking behind the theories adopted from her paper. The shift from power-over administration, the traditional hierarchy structure of an organization, to power-within is obvious. The end goal of the power-within theory is to open the lines of communications throughout an organization on all levels, from management to employee to consumer and back again, each feeding off the input of the other to help strengthen and build a healthier organization.

Ms. Maisonneuve used as her case studies Société de Transport de la Communauté Urbaine de Montréal, Hydro-Québec and S.A.Q. For two and a half years Danielle worked closely with Louise Roy, President and General Director of S.T.C.U.M., as her speech writer, as well as performing other duties. Danielle notes the significant fact that one of Ms. Roy's first re-organizational tasks was to create a communications service department to act as an epicentre to exchange ideas among employees, customers and politicians; and Hydro-Québec adopted a "consult with and inform the public" policy in their communications campaigns. However, the S.A.Q., unlike the other government-controlled organizations, is more politically involved in the sense that the consumers are also paying taxes on the consumable beverages: "The sales of these products generated, in 1986-87, a dividend of $361,000,000 in the public Treasury," to quote Danielle's reading paper. "Therefore, this monopoly of the Quebec Status on spirits serves to finance other governmental programs such as health care and education." It is because of the social, commercial and political implications that Danielle found this subject so interesting to analyze.

Her appreciation of the flexibility of the program, as well as the opportunity to explore these fields, Danielle feels, will give her a more rounded, overall view of her daily life at S.A.Q. Certainly, she has high praise for the program as a whole. This high praise is reciprocated by Concordia University. Dr. Joyce Barakett, Director of the Ph.D. Humanities Program, who first interviewed Danielle when she applied to the program was very clearly impressed with her background, and claims that Ms. Maisonneuve is presently one of her top students.

Her professors' constant challenges have had a profound effect on Danielle. She always questions the best possible alternative to a situation before confronting it. So, in the midst of the December strike, Danielle Maisonneuve's hand was apparent as the communications flow was quickly established, and as a result, negotiations were fairly handled to appease disgruntled employees as well as ruffled consumers. To have settled the strike so quickly and diplomatically especially so near Christmas helped bring an added note of cheer to all Quebecers.

Upcoming Doctoral Examinations

Ms. Ruth Vale, Department of Religion on March 8, 1989 at 10:00 a.m. in H-769. Title: **Images of Culture in Public Cult Building: A Study Of The Archaeological Remains of Roman and Byzantine Synagogues and Churches of Ancient Palestine, Dating From the Mid Second to the Mid Seventh Centuries C.E.**

Mr. Michael Large, Faculty of Arts and Science and Fine Arts on March 10, 1989 at 10:00 a.m. in H-769. Title: **Graphic Design and Corporate Identity.**

Mr. Lorne Huston, Department of History on March 10, 1989 at 2:00 p.m. in H-773. Title: **L'évolution des expositions d'art à Paris et le Pouvoir dans la vie artistique, 1864-1914.**

Ms. Parvaneh Baktash, Department of Building Engineering on March 15, 1989 at 10:30 a.m. in H-769. Title: **Friction Damped Braced Frames.**

Mr. Norman Ryan, Department of Mechanical Engineering on March 23, 1989 at 10:00 a.m. in H-929-23. Title: **Work Hardening, Strength, Restorative Mechanisms, and Ductility in the Hot Working of 300 Series Stainless Steels.**

All of the above exams will take place in the Hall Building, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.

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